GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6861
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2000
FACILITIES TO PILGRIMS
HARIBHAU MAHALE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on each Haj pilgrim by the Union Government during the last five years;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide the same facilities to the adherents of other religions going on pilgrimage in foreign countries as applicable to Haj pilgrims;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) : The only area where Government provides financial assistance to Haj pilgrims is subsidy for air travel in respect of pilgrims going through Haj Committee, Mumbai. Each pilgrim pays Rs.12,000 and the difference between the actual fare paid to the Air Charter Company and this amount (Rs.12,000) is met by the Government.

Details of air charter subsidy per pilgrim for the last five years is given below:

Year	Subsidy per pilgrim
1996	7,403/-
1997	14,600/-
1998	17,518/-
1999	17,640/-
2000	19,044/-

(b), (c) & (d) : There is no proposal before the Government.